Response from entrepreneurs for National Equity Fund

1673. SHRI TALARI MANOHAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the National Equity Fund set up under the 1988-89 Union Budget has failed to receive encouraging response from young entrepreneurs; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) and (b) The National Equity Fund Scheme (NEFS) is being operated by the Industrial Development Bank of India (IDBI) since August, 1987. IDBI has reported that the Scheme made slow progress. For the successful implementation of the NEFS and with a view to making it more useful to the entrepreneurs, following modifications, have been made by the IDBI, which came into force with effect from July 14, 1988:

(i) The NEFS will be operated through SBI also in addition to the nationalised banks.

(ii) State Financial Corporations/ twin function Industrial Development Corporations will also be the operating agencies in addition to banks in the North Eastern Region and hilly States of Jammu & Kashmir and Himachal Pradesh.

(iii) The population limit has now been increased from 5 lakhs to 15 lahks in so far as rehabilitation/ revival of sick SSI/tiny units are concerned so that larger number of sick units could benefit from the assistance out of NEFS. There will however, be no change in the population limit with regard to setting up of new units.

(iv) As an incentive to banks to bring in larger number of cases under the purview of NEFS, the extent of refinance for term loans, to be sanctioned by banks simultaneously with assistance out of NEFS has been increased from the present level of 75% to 100%.

Land area under wildlife sanctuaries

1674. SHRI TALARI MANOHAR: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the percentage of the area under wildlife sanctuaries in the country, Statewise; and

(b) what is the percentage that Central Government have recommended?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI): (a) Information showing the percentage of the total geographical area under Wildlife Sanctuaries is shown in column (3) of the enclosed Statement [*See* below]

(b) Government of India had requested the Wildlife Institute of India to make a Biogeographic Report to recommend a network of Protected areas in the country. The percentage geographic area under sanctuaries recommended by the Wildlife Institute of India is shown in column (4) of the enclosed Statement.